



Volunteer Newsletter

*Fall
Edition*

Demolition Begins on Filene Center Main Gate



Construction crews began demolition of the Main Gate on September 24.

On September 26, 2007, with a mighty whack from an excavator, Wolf Trap began the construction project of the Main Gate facility. Just days after the last show at the Filene Center, the heavy equipment arrived for the demolition of the existing structures. The first to go was the canopy at the main entrance and over the following weeks the remaining buildings were removed. Construction of the new complex will begin once demolition and site preparation concludes and will continue throughout the winter. The planned completion date is late spring 2008 and the facility is expected to be available for the opening of the performance season. The park will remain open to visitors during the construction project. The new Main Gate will be situated in the same location. As with the old structure, the new facility will house visitor restrooms, gift, souvenir, ticket, and food services.

Holiday Sing-A-Long

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts will once again host the Holiday Sing-A-Long. The Marine Corps Band, "The President's Own", will play holiday music and the audience will be invited to join in song. This festive event will be held at the Filene Center on December 2, 2007 at 4pm. This performance is free and open to all. To help make this a successful event, we are asking for volunteer support. Whether you are a ranger volunteer, first-aid provider, or usher, we would appreciate your assistance during this holiday concert. Please contact the volunteer office if you are interested in volunteering for this performance.

Photo courtesy of Wolf Trap Foundation/Sam Kittner



First-Aid Volunteer Corps Wins Regional Award



First-Aid Volunteers: (from left to right) Jim Henon, Alan Willis, Regional Volunteer Coordinator Polly Angelakis, Russ Slater, Sofia Anglarill, Mike Anglarill, Jeff Buchanan

The Wolf Trap First-Aid Volunteer Corps was presented with the National Capital Region Director's Award for Excellence in Protection Activities at the Ranger Volunteer Picnic on August 13, 2007. The National Capital Region Volunteer Coordinator Polly Angelakis presented the award to the first-aid volunteers in attendance at the picnic.

The first-aid volunteers generously provide assistance at each Filene Center performance. These volunteers are essential in helping performances run smoothly and help keep the thousands of patrons safe.

The Director's Award nomination focused on the Corps' dedication and recruitment activities, but also highlighted a specific incident where the first-aid volunteers discreetly responded to a medical need in the center of the front row during a performance. The volunteers were personally thanked by the performer for their discreet actions. The plaque and framed congratulatory letter from the Regional Director will hang in the Ranger Station.

Congratulations to the First-Aid Volunteer Corps!

Volunteer Ranger Pot Luck Picnic

On Monday, August 13th 2007, the park hosted the first annual Volunteer Ranger Picnic. The western-themed event gathered about eighty guests, and bandanas were given away as party favors after serving to enhance the décor. The main course provided by the park was from Famous Dave's Barbecue, while side dishes and desserts were provided by volunteer and ranger staff. Music was provided by the Theatre-in-the-Woods sound technician, Megan Jones, and several volunteers and rangers took the opportunity to show their moves on the dance floor.



Above: Ranger Lorri Whiteman made sure that Ranger Kevin Lamparter (right) and Ranger Liza Dister (left) danced a modest distance apart.

Photo at right: Ranger Volunteers enjoy all the delicious pot luck food on the Associate's Deck.



Photo at right: Volunteers and Ranger staff at the buffet.



For many, the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the National Capital Region Director's Award for Excellence in Protection Activities to Wolf Trap's First-Aid Volunteer Corps. (see page 1). These award-winning volunteers are here for every Filene Center performance throughout the summer season to help in times of medical need.

The Ranger staff would like to thank and congratulate the first-aid volunteers on this well-deserved award!



Photo Above: The dessert table at the picnic.

Recipe Corner – Strawberry Rhubarb Pie

This pie was a big hit at the picnic, and Volunteer Ranger Dorothy Sauer kindly sent the recipe for publication in the newsletter.

All purpose crust (bottom only):

2 cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup vegetable oil
2 tablespoons milk
Ungreased pie pan

Put dry ingredients in bowl. Mix wet ingredients in a measuring cup. Mix together with a fork. Pat into pie pan with a spoon.

Crumbly topping:

3/4 cup flour
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup butter (room temp.)
Mix with fork or pastry tool until crumbly. Sprinkle evenly over fruit in pie shell.

Pie filling: Varies depending on size of pan.

2 cups strawberries - hulled & cut into inch pieces
2 cups rhubarb - diced
1 cup sugar
1/4 cup flour
1 or 2 eggs

Mix ingredients in large bowl. Put in prepared pie shell. Cover with crumbly topping and bake. Do not pre-cook crust. Put fruit on raw crust. Don't over fill; it will boil over and make an awful mess!

Bake at 375 degrees for about 45 minutes.

Boot Scootin' BBQ at Camille's Affair

Camille's Affair took place on September 29th. This year's party was fun for all and a great way to end the 2007 season. The theme for the party was a "Boot Scootin' BBQ". Nearly 400 volunteers celebrated at either the afternoon or evening event.

Karen Norris, Wednesday night volunteer and champion dancer, and her dance partner, Rich Waiton, volunteered their time to instruct hundreds of volunteers in the steps of country line dancing. Their lessons were a beautiful display of their talents, dedication to being a Wolf Trap volunteer, and of just how much fun country line dancing could be.

The food featured several types of delicious BBQ, salads, breads, and desserts, not to mention a full bar that never went dry! Party favors included bandanas of every color, and straw cowboy hats adorned with sparklers.

During the evening party, we all said a fond farewell to Elly Mehl, who after being an Usher Volunteer for over 35 years, will be moving to be with her family overseas. We will dearly miss her.

Please feel free to share with us any comments or photographs you have from the BBQ. It was a joy for us to coordinate such a worthy thank you to all of the Usher Volunteers who put in so many hours and are dedicated to ensuring that every patron of Wolf Trap has a memorable experience. See you next season!

Photos Clockwise from top right: Volunteer Usher Karen Norris leads her fellow ushers through some line dances. Various volunteers at the afternoon event enjoy the western themed décor. Karen Norris and dancing partner Rich Waiton show off their dance moves. Various volunteers get ready to do some "Boot Scootin'".



Why we call it *Camille's Affair...*

Camille Fernandez was a volunteer usher for over 20 years. In her will, she set aside funds for *Camille's Affair* in order "to provide an annual recognition/appreciation event for all of the Ushers who provide their time and services in the Filene Center." With this generous gift that is managed by the National Park Foundation, the park has hosted three events for the volunteer ushers.



Thousands attend Children's Festival

Youth performers from the countries of Nepal, Spain, Bolivia, and Sweden, as well as many local performing groups representing cultures from around the world, performed at the International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap on September 22 and 23. Over 10,000 visitors came to the park for the two day festival. Some of the park's volunteer ushers, rangers, and first-aid providers helped with this event. New this year, volunteers from local Girl Scout troops helped pick up trash throughout the park during the festival.

Performances were held on stages at the Filene Center, Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, Meadow Pavilion, and the Ovations Restaurant deck. Tents were set up in the meadow for face painting and learning about different cultures. Backstage at the Filene Center, children could also experience the "Arts & Technology" area.

The week before the public weekend festival, all Fairfax County 5th graders (over 14,000!) took a field trip and attended performances at the Filene Center. Each day, as over 80 buses arrived at the park, volunteer ushers had a great time seating these students quickly and safely.

The International Children's Festival is held every September at Wolf Trap. To volunteer at next year's event, please contact the volunteer office.



Photos Clockwise from Top Left: Swedish acrobats from Ludvika Minicircus film with Holly Morris from Fox Channel 5. Washington Chu Shan Chinese Opera performing at the Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods. Many children enjoying the inflatables in the meadow. The Alte Kameraden German Band perform at the Ovation Restaurant Deck. Escuela de Danza Folklorica Boliviana Cochabamba perform on the Filene Center stage. A Calliope at the Main Gate Plaza. O'Neill-James School of Irish Dancing performs on the Meadow Pavilion stage.



Volunteers at the Children's Theatre

"Over the river and through the woods to..." grandma's house? Not at Wolf Trap. Crossing the creek and walking through the woods will take you to the Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods.

Each summer, for a seven week performance season, volunteers of all ages come to help out at the theatre. They assist with all aspects of the theatre – from distributing "Will Call" tickets and scanning tickets, to helping patrons park strollers along "Stroller Alley". The volunteers are there to help with a smile. Adult volunteers can also help by driving carts for special needs patrons. High school students will sometimes take this volunteer opportunity to fulfill needed volunteer hours, while Girl Scouts can earn needed federal hours for the Silver Trefoil Award.



A Theatre-in-the-Woods Volunteer scans a ticket before the show.

Mark your Calendar...

December 2 – Holiday Sing-A-Long

Special backstage tours for all 2007 Wolf Trap Volunteers are scheduled for this fall. Please feel free to invite family and friends to see where you volunteer and take a peek behind the scenes at the Filene Center. These walking tours are approximately an hour and a half in length.

Reservations required – please call (703) 255-1893.

November 2 – 2pm and 7pm

November 3 – 1pm

December 7 – 2pm and 7pm

December 8 – 1pm



Did you know? Wolf Trap's Volunteer Website:
www.nps.gov/wotr/supportyourpark/volunteer



Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to volunteer at Wolf Trap all year long.

- Usher
- Ranger
- First-Aid Provider
- Stage Door Aide
- Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods
- Recycling Specialist
- Roaming Ranger
- Park Cleanups
- Administrative Assistance

Volunteer Office Contact Information:
(703) 255-1893
Wotr_volunteer@nps.gov

Information On-line:
www.nps.gov/wotr

Help Wolf Trap "Go Green"

Wolf Trap is recruiting volunteers to help with the "green" efforts throughout the park, such as the park's recycling program and informing the public about how they can do their part to help the environment. For the 2008 performance season these new volunteer positions will be available at the Filene Center – they will help Wolf Trap help the environment.



A Small World

Submitted by a Volunteer Usher

One night while waiting to open the gate at Ramp D, my husband and I became engaged in a conversation with a man and his adult son. They had box seat tickets for the Celtic Woman performance. With a last name of Brogan - Irish was in their blood.

They were both very friendly and seemed to enjoy the conversation. As the conversation progressed, I learned the father had recently retired. When I asked where he had worked, he mentioned OSHA. Making a long story short, I started my government career at OSHA and although I left many years ago, I vividly remembered him. He and his wife gave me a ride to work one snowy day when it was impossible to get a ride on the bus and also had invited me to join their family for Christmas dinner one year. At the time, I had recently moved to Washington and greatly appreciated their acts of kindness.

It was wonderful to see him again and know that he is doing fine. Best of all, he still has his great sense of humor.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Wolf Trap's Volunteer Newsletter highlights the 1,100 volunteers that contribute their time to the National Park Service at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts.

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Include "Newsletter" in the Subject

Website:

www.nps.gov/wotr

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

A Park For All Seasons

After the final bows have been taken and the sound of applause fades from the park, visitors still have the opportunity to experience Wolf Trap. With cooler temperatures and the beautiful natural setting – the fall leaves put on their own show.

Backstage tours for the public are offered from October through March. Education programs are also offered on a variety of topics. These curriculum-based programs enhance lessons learned in the classroom. Details available at www.nps.gov/wotr.

